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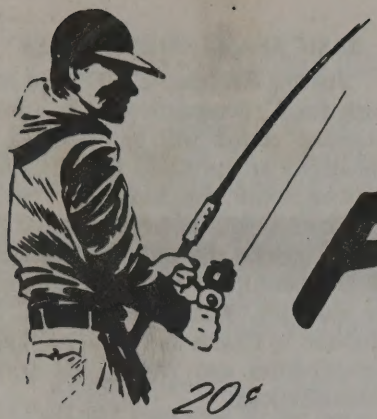

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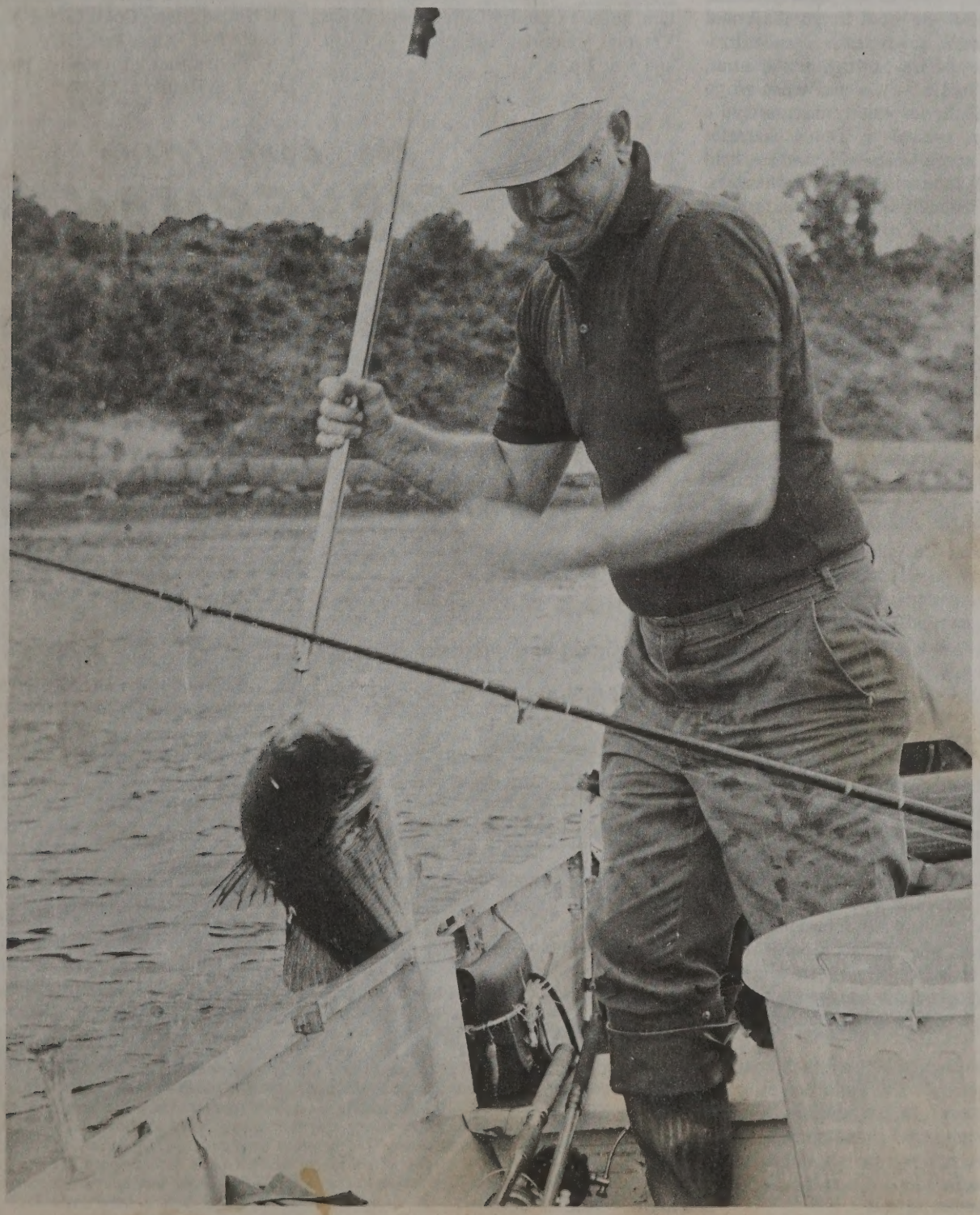
The Long Island FISHERMAN

JANUARY 27th, ISSUE NO. 4, 1972



UNIONDALE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM OFFERS SALT WATER FISHING COURSE

A weekly two hour fishing program is now in progress at the Uniondale High School on Goodrich Street in Uniondale. This ten week program, headed by Don Miller, got off to a start on January 19th, but there are nine more weeks to go with room for more applicants. Don will cover all the aspects of fishing on Long Island, pier, surf, bay, bottom and gamefishing. In addition, he will include helpful hints on how to purchase and service fishing equipment. Standard topics, such as knot tying, baits, lures, balanced tackle, where and when to go fishing will be informally discussed in a mannerism typical to Don's character and fishing prowess. Classes are held from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM Wednesdays. Resident fee is $9.00 and a non-resident can attend for $10.00. For additional information, call (516) 485-9815.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN MEETINGS

The Department of Environmental Conservation's planned "speak outs" to afford State residents an opportunity to give their views on the best way to meet environmental challenges have been expanded from one to two days, Commissioner Henry L. Diamond announded today.

Originally scheduled for February 1, the "speak outs" also will be conducted on January 31, Commissioner Diamond said. Commissioner Diamond and deputy commissioners will preside at the sessions in various communities.

"The law creating the Department of Environmental Conservation requires that we prepare an environmental plan as a guide to protect the State's natural resources and control air, water and land pollution," Commissioner Diamond said.

"To help us achieve the widest possible participation in creating the plan, the law also requires that we consult with various levels of government, industry, business and concerned citizens," he continued. "This is good, because government alone cannot, and should not, be the sole architect of the plan which will have such a broad impact on the health, safety and welfare of the people of the State."

The plan will cover such concerns as open space, water pollution, air pollution, scenery, forests, fishing, hunting, power generation, urban spread, endangered species, toxic metals, radioactivity, land run-off, noise, and a number of other environmental aspects.

Individuals can contribute their views either verbally or in writing at "speak outs", or by writing to: "Environmental Plan", Department of Environmental Conservation, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12201.

The schedule for the Environmental Plan Meetings locally are: January 31, 1972 - New York City - CCNY Graduate Center, 33 West 42nd Street, 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Manhasset - Town Board Room of the North Hempstead Town Hall, Plandome Road, 7 to 10 p.m. Hauppauge - Planning Building Auditorium, Suffolk Country Government Center, Veterans Memorial Highway, 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.

BASIC SEAMANSHIP COURSE

Starting February 2, 1972 and continuing for 12 consecutive weeks a basic seamanship course will be presented to all boatsters at the Kings Park Sr. High School on Route 25A, Kings Park, N.Y.

Courses will be from 8 to 10 PM and will include the following subjects: Basic Seamanship, Maneuvering and Small Boat Handling, Aids to Navigation, Introduction to Charts and Compass, Legal Responsibilities and AM & FM Radio Communications.

This free course is being given by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 19-3, Kings Park, N.Y.

For further information, please contact: Ken Hafner at 269-9492.

The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA
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REPORT FROM SAVE OUR STRIPERS

Save Our Stripers, Inc., an organization dedicated to the preservation of the striped bass, held its annual corporate meeting at the American Legion Hall in Massapequa, L.I. on Thursday, January 13th. Approximately 100 sportsmen turned out for the program which featured the election of officers and directors for 1972.

Outgoing president, Allan J. Ristori of Lodi, N.J., reported on the gains made by S.O.S. during the past legislative session. For the second year in a row, the S.O.S. bill, which will make the striped bass a gamefish in New York State over a period of three years, was passed unanimously in the State Senate under the guidance of Senator Bernard C. Smith of Northport, chairman of the Senate Conservation Committee.

However, the companion measure in the Assembly, sponsored by Robert Wertz of Commack, was bottled up in committee by Speaker Perry Duryea, Jr. of Montauk. Yet, the sportsmen almost scored a surprise victory when Assemblyman Peter A.A. Berle of Manhattan, slipped in a striped bass gamefish amendment to a so-called "compromise" bill (actually written by Montauk commercial interests in order to serve their purposes), introduced by a Duryea lieutenant. The amendment almost passed before whip-cracking from the leadership brought most Republican members (with the notable exception of Wertz, John McCarthy of Huntington Station and Charles Jerabek of Bay Shore) into line on a party loyalty basis. However, S.O.S. was able to block the Duryea bill in the Senate, and once again, the result was a stand-off.

Ristori pointed out that, though S.O.S. hasn't yet achieved its purpose of protecting the striped bass, the organization has come closer to its goal each year. With elections coming up in November, S.O.S. will be putting even more pressure on the legislators to honor the wishes of their constituents rather than bend to the will of a handful of people with a special economic interest in the fishery.

Ristori noted that he had two meetings with Mr. Duryea during the past year in an effort to seek a compromise solution. Though meetings with commercial representatives haven't resulted in an acceptable solution to this date, Ristori pointed out that Mr. Duryea has often said that were the striped bass to be endangered, he would be the first to call for its protection. The latest available statistics indicate that, despite record high prices, there has been a 28% drop in the New York commercial catch of striped bass in the first 9 months of 1971, on top of an 11% drop in 1970.

With the outlook for next year even worse, Ristori called upon Mr. Duryea to follow through on his statement.

In-coming president, Blair Moger of West Sayville, L.I., promised vigorous action in pursuit of S.O.S. objective snad emphasized the fact that the organization would put considerable pressure on legislators to follow through on their promises in regard to striped bass gamefish legislation. Once again the S.O.S. legislation has been prefiled with numbers S-1442 in the Senate and A-3830 in the Assembly, and sportsmen were urged to write their assemblyman in support of the bills.

Entertainment was provided by Pete Barrett of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association, who gave a slide presentation about fishing opportunities and conservation activities on the Hudson, and by Ristori, with a slide presentation on the tagging of striped bass in cooperation with the American Littoral Society Program.

New officers installed for 1972 were: Blair Moger of West Sayville, L.I., President; Allan J. Ristori of Lodi, N.J., 1st Vice President; Fred Hodgson of Hicksville, L.I., 2nd Vice President; Bob Schavel of Amityville, L.I., Corresponding Secretary; Marie Malek of Uniondale, L.I., Recording Secretary; and Gene Gerardi of Wading River, L.I., Treasurer. In addition to Moger, Ristori, Hodgson, Schavel, Mrs. Malek and Gerardi, other members of the Board of Directors are: Jim Carolan of Jamaica, L.I.; Jack Gilmore of Port Washington, L.I.; Stanley Kuszel of Middle Village, N.Y.; Louis Malek of Uniondale, L.I.; John Nicolellis of Yaphank, L.I.; Ex-President Robert Rance of Massapequa Park, L.I.; Warren Urquhart of Hempstead, L.I.; Thomas Pustizzi (youth chairman) of East Islip, L.I.; and Joseph Mostler of Rocky Point, L.I.

For further information, contact: Allan J. Ristori, c/o The Garcia Corporation, 110 Charlotte Place, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 07632 - 201 - 569 - 9511.

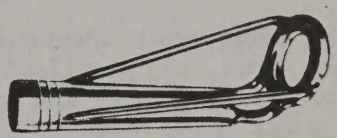
Membership is available by contributing $2. for regular membership or $5. for contributing membership (includes SOS button and bumper sticker) to Louis F. Malek, Membership, Save Our Stripers, Inc., 670 Southern Parkway, Uniondale, New York 11553.

ICE FISHING TOURNEY AT ELDRED PRESERVE

Eldred, N.Y. - - - Eldred Trout Preserve in the Catskills, between Monticello and Barryville on Route 55, will hold its Third Annual Fishing Tournament February 1-29. Prizes will be awarded weekly for big trout landed, and there will be a grand prize for the largest fish taken during the tourney.

Husky brookies, rainbows, tigers, browns and golden trout have excellent appetites during the winter months and can be taken on either natural bait or artificial jigs. The Preserve's staff will assist anglers in cutting holes in the ice or fishermen can use the Preserve's augers to cut their own in any of the four ponds. There is no entrance fee during the tournament.

Eldred Preserve, about two hours from New York, is open all year round. Facilities include a motel, dining room, snack bar, gift shop and plenty of free parking.



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DON'S VIEW

It was a Saturday morning in December, crisp, cold and quiet. It was dawn, but not as early as dawn would come in June. I was awake, still in bed with my arms folded under my head and braced against my pillow, day dreaming. Nothing in particular was on my mind, until - - - Boom boom - - - **Boom boom - - Boom boom - - -.**

Two shotgun blasts were echoing out across Hempstead Harbor. A smile came to my face as I visualized the distant duck hunter unwinding himself from a crouched position and swinging his gun into the path of a stooling bird. Did he down it? I listened. Motionless, I waited out the next flock of birds that could be winging their way out of the marsh down under the Roslyn Bridge or from inland ponds that serve as santuaries for these migratory ducks. Sure enough, boom boom - - -. Beautiful, I thought. More than likely those birds were Black Ducks and my hunter was taking full advantage of them.

A jealous thought interrupted this pleasant dream – why wasn't I out there instead of him? I argued with myself, making all kinds of excuses. Hell, I had done more than my share of duck hunting and with all that time I spend fishing, what more could I want? Besides, just lying there in bed with my eyes closed, I was enjoying the hunt near as well as the gunner. The smile returned. But then another thought entered my mind – time is running against us and soon there will be no hunting left on Hempstead Harbor. Why?

No smile now; I am getting sick.

Every weekend and on as many other mornings and evenings as possible, I take a jaunt down to the harbor's edge. What I see frightens the livin' hell out of me. What's worse are some of the conversations I hear, even among my neighbors. Take for example, that same December morning, only a few hours later in the day.

"Did you hear all that racket this morning? It woke me up. Something ought to be done about the noise."

Done? I say this idiot should welcome the sound of those guns, at least it means there is still life on the harbor. Besides, there was only one hunter at work that morning and in years past Broadbill hunters used to vie for positions all across the harbor entrance. And if this cat wanted to hear noise, the volleys that came from my own five-man blind would have deafened him. But in those days, gun shots were music to most; unfortunately we all took it for granted.

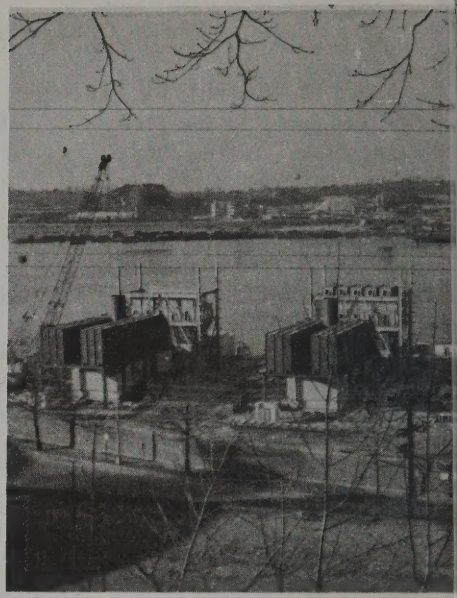
Ask this same fellow what he thinks about the industrialization along the harbor's edge and he replies, "Yes, it's a shame, but necessary, I guess. They sure do help in the tax structure though, easing our own burden somewhat."

Yes, they help in the tax structure. It shouldn't cost us more than a billion dollars to try and correct or even just to maintain what we have at present, a dying harbor.

Enough of this conversation. I drive down to the beach and watch the high-flying flocks of ducks skim over the sand pits on the western shore. What makes these birds choose this harbor; are they stupid? Not really. Far up inside the back harbor there is still some marsh. These birds will feed and rest nearby those grasses. I leave the beach, drive south and pull up on Route 25A. I stop on the far side of the viaduct, park, walk back on the bridge and look out over the inner harbor. I vomit.

There is no need to describe the horror that I see. You can view it anytime. The facts remain the same, with or without the environmental groups that are playing tug-of-war with one another or the sly government administrators who must have singled out Hempstead Harbor as IT for the north shore Port-Of-Anything-Goes.

My mind would be more at ease if I stayed at home and kept all from my sight, but I'm a glutton for punishment. The oil spill and reported fish-kill on our eastern beaches between Eaton's Neck and Port Jefferson are the big news. But what of the thousands of dead bait fish that spew from the discharge of Hempstead Harbor's power house on a daily basis? Who can detect the cleansing chemicals from this same facility when nothing visible washes ashore? The visible and detectable incinerator, sewerage treatment plants, oil terminals, turbines, marinas, landfills, smoke stacks, storm drains, waste in all forms are also helping to kill this harbor. They happened because we happened, too fast, too soon, and in big numbers.



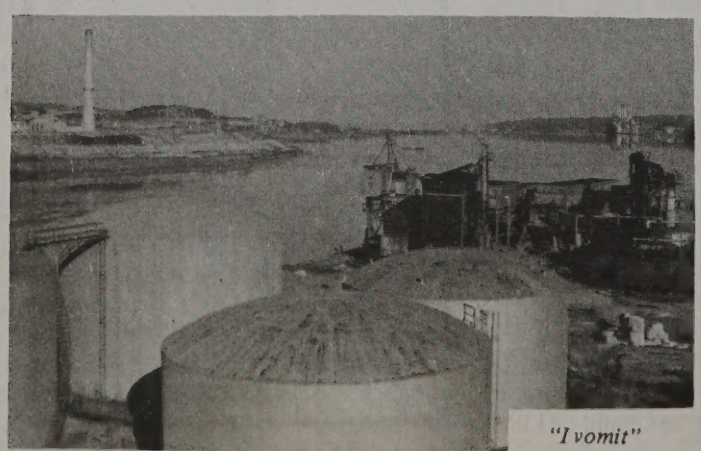
Something new, turbines

But who cares? Who loves to hear the sound of a hunter downing his limit of ducks on a winter day? Few do. Most don't. Others don't know how.

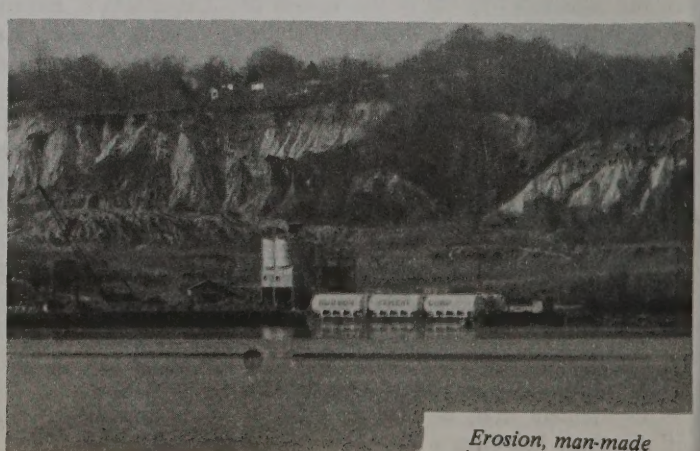
It is a Saturday morning in January, crisp, cold, quiet - - - very quiet.

The oceans are next! And then what?

DON MILLER



"I vomit"



Erosion, man-made

PLUGGIN' AROUND

BY AL REINFELDER

CON ED CON YOU?

Any fisherman who picked up the New York Times on the morning of January 12 would have automatically zeroed in on the page-one article, "TEST RUN AT INDIAN POINT IS ASKED BY A.E.C. UNIT". Consolidated Edison's No. 1 plant at Indian Point has already established itself as one of the truly great ecological disaster areas of our time. It earned this loveless honor not on account of the subtle effects of thermal pollution, nor on the more insidious - but even less visible - effects of increased radio-activity, but on the blatant, straightforward killing of fish. The gross slaughter of striped bass and white perch at Indian Point is history - it has been witnessed, photographed, filmed, and reported. It has not - however - been stopped. No successful way has been found to prevent small fish from being killed by the water intake system which is required by the nuclear power plant to cool off its hot little heart of uranium and plutonium.

Consolidated Edison has been so busy building Indian Point no. 2 that it couldn't really be expected to devote much time or effort to the slightly distracting problem of dead "minnows" and fish eggs. At any rate, extra Con Ed brain-power (if smart automatons can be said to have such organic structures as "brains") has been devoted to the battle for Storm King Mountain. (Sometimes it seems as though Con Ed would like to obliterate the Hudson River's life-system once and for all. Then, it could use the Dead River to produce all the electricity it wanted - and nobody would care. With Indian Point to the south and Storm King to the north, an excellent attack could be perpetrated against at least one living element in the river: striped bass.

Indian Point Nuclear Electro-Magnetic Power Generating Plant no. 2 is capable of turning out 873,000 kilowatts of juice. In a spirit of conservatism the A.E.C. recommended that the upcoming test run ("we sure hope it works") be at a mere 50% of full power. That might sound reasonable until you weigh it against the fact that Indian Point no. 1 at 100% generates only 265,000 k.w. In other words, even at half capacity, this new boiler is more than twice as big, powerful, dangerous and ugly as no. 1. Once it's received permission from the man-gods over at A.E.C. to go full bore, the total environmental impact of the two plants will be almost FIVE TIMES WHAT IT IS AT PRESENT.

But don't leave now, folks, the show is just beginning. To the north we see new construction. That's right, Indian Point no. 3 already underway. And it's a big one. "You're gonna love it!" 965-megawatts - you heard it - 965,000 kilowatts of power from no 3 alone. When nos. 1,2 and 3 are all pulsing away, the impact on your river and mine (never mind the fish who just happen to live there) will be EIGHT TIMES WHAT IT IS AT PRESENT.

But let's not stop here. When you're hot you're hot - right? And Con Ed is right in there shaking those dice. What bold gamblers! ("Whose putting up the stakes?!!" someone asks. "Shut up, boy," says big Ed, whose got one on the cubes.) The dice are thrown. Nos. 4 and 5 - everybody loses. Too bad! But Big Ed don't care; he's gone. Had everybody conned, too.

How big will nos. 4 and 5 be? Nobody knows (except Big Ed, and - maybe - Dr. Strangelove.)

Meanwhile, back in the City, A.E.C. paves the way for no. 2. "In a 50-page report, the A.E.C.'s regulatory staff said significant damage to fish and other aquatic life could be expected even when the plant operates at half power. But it said the permit should be granted because the 'probable environmental impact' has to be balanced against the 'emergency situation' that exists in the metropolitan area's power supply." (N.Y. Times.)

Were you consulted about this? Did anyone even bother to ask if you wouldn't voluntarily give up a small percentage of your electrical power for a healthy Hudson River? (Don't answer! Pay your last bill and retire to your colored television set.)

What are some of the things the A.E.C. expects will occur at no. 2?

"As a result of being sucked into the plant's cooling system, 'up to 25 percent' of the striped bass eggs and larvae that pass the plant could be killed.

"About 593 pounds per day" of fish, primarily white perch, will be trapped in the screens of the cooling apparatus. The report does not give a specific number of fish, but the young fish weigh less than half an ounce each.

"Consolidated Edison's proposed program for monitoring the plant's ecological impact is 'inadequate for reviewing some of the damage to aquatic life' and requires improvement to detect the effects of the heated discharge water and chemical discharges." (N.Y. Times.)

Minor considerations when you weigh these facts against the importance to man's happiness of air conditioners, electric toasters, t.v., electric can openers, tooth brushes, stimulators, knives, vibrators, hair driers and door bells.

Over and over again, the power-crisis is called upon to justify the most outrageously monstrous devices of the technocrats who are usurping political power as rapidly as they are producing electrical power. We know that we can live with a lot less electricity. Those who have studied the subject intensively - like the panel of experts at the recently concluded meeting of the American Association for the advancement of Science - know that we have to. The panel of scientists, headed by Dr. Barry Commoner, "suggested the need to eventually relieve the nation's energy shortages by reducing the demand for power, not by increasing the supply. Only in this way can the nation slow down its rising consumption of energy, conserve dwindling resources and protect the environment . . . The only thing really abundant in the energy field is the pollution it causes."

Con Edison, as a marketer of power, will not be eager to curtail its spiralling growth rate. Along with the other big boys in the electro-power-cartel Con Ed will continue to con you into believing in the "power-crises" and its own "solution": more power!

Con Ed con you? I don't know, con he?

Although the following quotation from The Last Whole Earth Catalog speaks to the unfortunate drowning of American rivers in our earlier pursuit of power, the message is germaine to our problems today:

"Turn off the lights; in the silence of your darkened home you can hear a thousand rivers whispering their thanks."

Strictly Casting

by Vince Guaglianone

SEASONS AND BEACHES

Last week we looked a little at life-habits of gamefish and baitfish, the species: the first 'condition'. This must remain central to our focus. Because the vital thing is simply if gamefish 'choose' to fin surfward. The other conditions are what instigate and limit this choice.

To limit and to instigate, is not the same as to make it necessarily so. Always, anything can happen; even in the surf. Like a 'trolling-sized' 57-pound striper, beaches by Dan Marchand in low ebb tide last November; near the new moon that Dan had learned through the years to prefer. Among other things, such a catch is supposed to favor high tidal stages. It is also supposed to favor waters east, and even further out northeast of that sandy Moriches shore; that surf where Dan alone had paid attention to three seagulls before making his choice cast of a true plug on a raw cloudy day.

IIA) SEASONAL CHANGE: Life-habits of the migratory fishes are intimately linked to water temperature. Its seasonal change apparently triggers those massive sweeps of marine life inshore/offshore, and north/south along the Atlantic seaboard; but including such as the Sound/Hudson movement of bass. As a season grows, water changes temperature slower than air and earth. But temperature change in the shallow surf is faster than offshore. Often, during spring and fall especially, shoal water temperature fluxuates closer to that of the air.

But which temperature, like: 40 degrees (not less) spurs the striper out of its winter lethargy to feed? Maybe Roccus, due purely to his (her) own metabolism, does 'awaken' at a particular temperature. Yet, for example, a particular shore needs not less than 51 degrees, because that temperature there brings in a herring species; and without those herring, maybe few if any migrant lunker bass would arrive at Rhode Island's Narrow River so early in the spring . . . In the 'Stripers Unlimited' Guidebook, 1968, Bob Pond tells us that bass start migrating northward, mainly from the Chesapeake Bay when its water temperature hits about 50 degrees.*

Off Long Island's north shore there probably are winter hold-overs. (I don't consider power-station waters). Bayville can start up in April. But some years so can the Cedar Beach surf and Point Lookout and Lido Beach . . . In the true surf, I've found best results early springtime in shallowest water, warmed midday; placing bait atop a rippy submerged sandbar. This needs higher tides. But watch for precociously warm successive days of a particular March or April. After an extended burst of early warmth, surfward channels will be richer with sea lives, including bass in April. Then the low tidal stages are for casting to the further holes and channels; and the flood is for casting amid the white-water paths that denote submerged bars.

Around the first week of July, the famous summer adjustment occurs: gamefish finning emphatically out from the surf line and down deep for the cool of it during the 'dog days'. Then, summer nights have a value for surfmen; especially the pre-dawn dark which is on the brink of a major feeding period (sunrise), and which has allowed the shallows overnight to cool a bit more comfortably for husky gamefish. These return surfward, foraging mostly through high tides now. School bass can be less fussy. Fast rips by backwater shores can yield their lunkers; come from out the deep channels and bays; sometimes even in daylight; if you can find where weekend-skippers have not run ashore to hold a picnic, or other forms of playing in the sunshine with their wasted sea-worthy craft.

B) SEASONAL QUALITY: This makes for the 'early season/late season' factor. The predominant air temperature during March and April gives you hint for your timing. Last week, I mentioned 'Mullet Autumn'. You know that the heat of the dog days can reach into October. These factors do not too much affect the main surge of bass and blues along their ancient paths migrating thru the offshore fathoms. The 'early/late' impact is for the shallow surf; for the question: when will they come in?

Seasonal quality also affects the surf's water-condition. Rainfall; storm-frequency; or the force, direction and duration of dominant winds of a particular season. These can influence the surf in terms of bait-supply, sea weed, clarity, sandyness, big water, murky or milky, castability, and so on.

Famously, the season as such dictates generally the methods of surf fishing. Lures, or bait. Break it down further. Watch for exceptions. Yield to the conditions. In the surf, in its relatively few drops of water, everything is 'tighter' than offshore fishing; where the sonar screen might allow us to forget these things of nature that we are trying to sketch here. Not so much for schoolies, but for lunkers in the surf: sure, you need luck. But part of luck for Dan Marchand was watching three seagulls; for Tom Sharpe, it is hitting Montauk, especially in storm-pushed combers. For another good surfman, Leonard Baum, it is Point Lookout's slight but rich surf; with light tackle and four favorite lures. And sure, this too is another beautiful part of it all: light tackle; four favorite lures (and fifteen years of experience, which I hope Lenny will share with us).

III) BEACH POTENTIAL: The structure and 'location' of beaches . . . The famous fact is that shores tending to be arrow-straight, hardly undulating and also gradually shelving out flatly under the breakers, are poor . . . The general rule pertains to location: the further a beach is from the mouth of a backwater-source of bait, the more variegated you want that beach to be in itself. But tidal currents of some coasts do sweep bait regularly to distant points of the shore.

Shoreline contour, and bottom-conformation mostly determine 1) depth; 2) much of tidal force; and 3) much of tidal current with its rips. Bottom-composition: gravel, rock, plants have seasonal occupants, clinging and crawling lives. Offshore current can also have influence here; and even by its own temperature it can have impact on a surf's living residents despite season.

But most evidently, beach potential speaks of a bay-opening; plus that famous mix of sand-ribs, rocks, holes, reefs, sloughs, coves, and the tidal rips of all these; to keep an overall bait-supply more constant, less ordinarily dependent on wind and weather and moon-phase. At these best of beaches, the influence of weather and wind and moon-phase have only a 'sometimes-plus' value, or a catalytic value . . . Given a sandy, shallow beach miles from an opening, and where tidal current does not regularly sweep in

bait: then at least coves are required. In coves baitfish seek shelter from storms, or get forced into coves by a moon-tide. The cove-points make rip-water spots. In rocky, weedy coves, little baits seek shelter from marauding squid and mackerel. Yet all these lesser hunters and prey get trapped in coves by the invading bluefish and stripers; also sharks, albacore and bonito occasionally; which come in just for that food in the surf, as long as it's there.

In sizing up a beach, there is a tendency to emphasize depth. Most visibly, surf-depth fluxuates with tide . . . You know the value of deep water is determined by the nature of the gamefish we seek. I do look for deep water; but in the surf I can't value depth more than season or tidal rip . . . Sure, you need more than three inches. But, like the distant-cast factor of our favorite sport, 'deep water' in the surf is preferable with many 'ifs'. The how-deep question does count more than moon-phases, most times. But this is what I mean: Give me two feet of water, and at that beach I'll look first for signs of fish . . . No signs? Then where's a rip-current . . . Found one. Good. Now, what's the best time? Meaning: what's the best season; when will bait reach here this day; when's the next feeding period this day; what's the best wind and general weather for this beach . . . Now, if the rip and the other factors hold fast with an extra foot of water: ok, give me that extra water.

In finding the two feet of water with its tidal stage, force, and rip, we 'implicitly considered' the moon-phase which influences to a degree tidal stage, force, and rip.

Remember, you find the 'best time' by working the surf; by "experimenting and exploring" as Reinfelder said (" . . . Sharpshooter!", No. 17, 1970) This working the surf should be frequent, consistent. Thusly hitting into fish, you mark with greater certainty the other conditions which meld with a beach's rip, forming the peak situation there. Simultaneously, you gain practice with lures and rigs. This practice in itself tends to maximize your future effectiveness in that discovered peak situation to which you return for more action; and it prepares you for further explorations. Days and nights you advance from tide to tide, from rip to rip, peak situations from beach to beach, from lure to lure. Now you feel you can catch fish under any conditions at your favorite beach. "How could I have ever bothered about Where, and When!" – And this would tend to be most true, the more school bass are concerned.

But experienced fishermen tend to forget that beginners, if unable to surf-cast frequently, can get into a vicious circle because infrequent attempts are not apt to give a beginner many strikes. So it is not helpful to talk only of how to work a lure while beginners are trying for their first strikes. Just talk, without strikes, will not give beginners a feel for lures, or that confidence in working lures which often come to mean as much as the 'conditions'. Hindering our first experiences are certain man-made factors that today bar many from the frequent visits to the surf that they would prefer. This inability to go out often, and such as the time eaten up in traveling to a productive surf, subtract from the worth of talking about how to use lures; unless a little encouragement is given as to how to make the most of the fishing-times.

The same vicious circle: few fishing-times, little experience, less inclination to develop and discover, applies regarding the schoolie-slaughterer; who might eventually wonder why he only got one or two 30-pounders. Business offers him a solution: buy a boat. My offer, particularly to those who cannot yet hit the surf often and regularly: if you really prefer it in the surf, be as mindful of the conditions as you are of tackle. It seems to me logical that, the less time you have to hit a particular shore, less than three times a week, then the more explicitly you must mark the conditions of your successes; and with a dependence on what satisfies you: schoolies, or lunkers. Otherwise, I fear that you will buy that boat. Then you could find, right away most years, the easier thing of deeper water; and catch generally more and bigger fish. But at the expense, I believe, of particular qualities of experience specifically granted by surfcasting. Before choosing the positives of boat fishing, I would like your exposure to the surf increased, so that your choice is freer; freer than, for example the 'choice' of a gamefish that runs into a chum-slick.

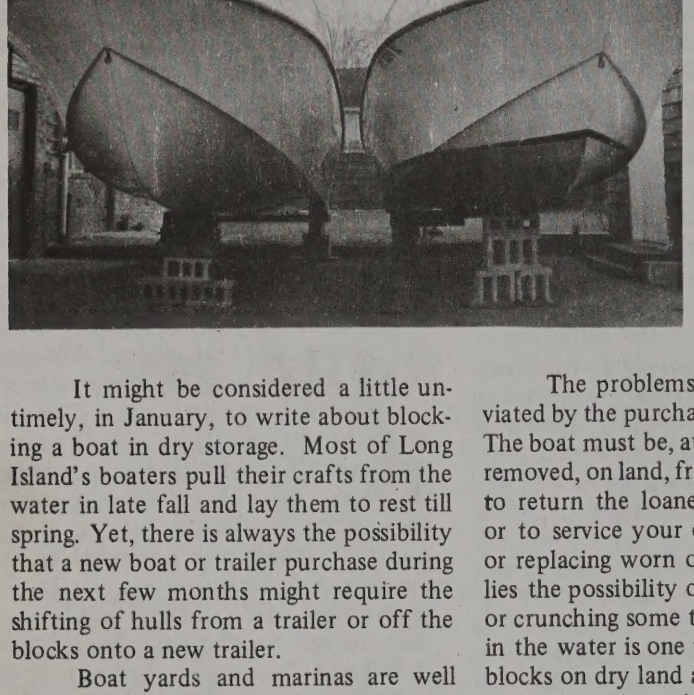
NOTE: By the above remarks regarding one's possibly quitting the surf for boats, I intend no underestimation of the specific qualities of the sport in boats. It is not my place here to defend the specific excellence of the sport in boats; though in these clam-chum and multiple-tube days, there is enough for anyone to communicate if he is seriously concerned to preserve and foster the best of the sport in boats. In passing, I will however remark that, with any mode of fishing the excellence of that mode is determined by the fighting quality of the gamefish itself. Small boat trolling off Long Island shores, for example, trolling as distinct from casting a plug: trolling in a small boat peaks as a sport when one trolls for such as school tuna, albacore, even little bonito. Admittedly, a 74-pound, new world-record bass under a boat would provide someone with an experience, the particular glow of which is linked to piscatorial fame. Quite aside from fame, regarding only the performance of the species, the small seaworthy craft belongs most with such as a 20-pound school tuna. This pertains only to what brings out the best, the 'cream' of the trolling sport itself; matching tackle to the fish and remembering that the boat is part of the tackle. Of course, many are free to enjoy whatever else they please, and this is only right. But some are rightly obligated "to tell it like it is"; whether or not I enjoy doing so.

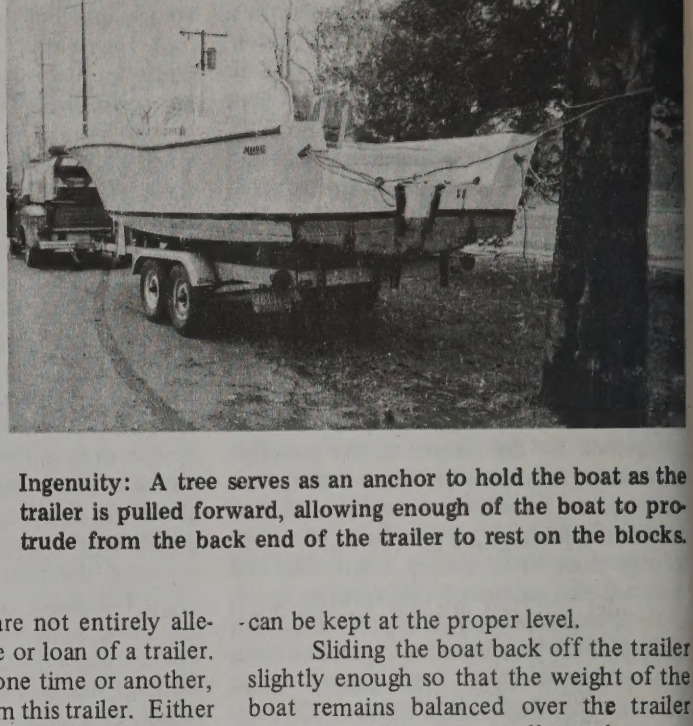
Finishing now our mere sketch of beach potential: the coast itself is so important, that beaches greatly different in nature develop surfmen emphasizing different skills. Specialists. The 11-13 foot heavy rods, and long casts, of the bait-cutting Cape Cod regulars. The plug-purists and live-liners of Rhode Island's rocky coast. The plugmen of Long Island's stone and gravel north shore; which isn't bouldery enough to have sustained the need for the Penn Squidder with nylon or dacron line, as is still found in Rhody. The predominantly metal-jig and big-popper casters of our sandy south surf. The club that looses only live eels by West End's White Shack in August, where others and I want to do it with an Alou. The seasonal regulars at Montauk fitted out by Johnnie Kronuch . . . Break it down further. You know the value of a medium action, 9-foot rod: the moderate surf west of the Hamptons; the lower jetties. But not at Montauk . . . This variety of equipment and technique is not based on pure whim, or custom, or business considerations. Mostly it is called out by the nature of the coastlines. As such, this determination of tackle and technique is quite distinct from a selection that wants to give a gamester an extra edge. As when a pro tries fly rodding it for stripers. Obviously, this type tackle-selection is the exact opposite of putting out a long cast in the surf with an 11.6 rod, for such as a blowfish.

For writing and reading, we cover beach-potential in the most real sense with a Where-to article. "The most real sense", depending on how accurate is a Where-to article based on one guy's experience. Sometimes, you should give us yours. As did generously Tom Sharpe, Dan Marchand, and Leonard Blum who prefer the surf.

**This is a serious yearly guidebook, generously written by conscientious sportsmen. Well worth the dollar and fifty cents. Stripers Unlimited, P.O. Box 45, So. Attleboro, Mass. 02703.*

DON'S CORNER





Ingenuity: A tree serves as an anchor to hold the boat as the trailer is pulled forward, allowing enough of the boat to protrude from the back end of the trailer to rest on the blocks.

It might be considered a little untimely, in January, to write about blocking a boat in dry storage. Most of Long Island's boaters pull their crafts from the water in late fall and lay them to rest till spring. Yet, there is always the possibility that a new boat or trailer purchase during the next few months might require the shifting of hulls from a trailer or off the blocks onto a new trailer.

Boat yards and marinas are well equipped to perform these maneuvers. Traveling mechanical lifts make short work out of hoisting boats. Winter storage facilities for boats are numerous in just about every harbor and port in our region. But, if you're like me, you will want your boat right in the backyard where you can tinker with it all winter long without once having to leave home.

There are professional boat haulers who make a business out of back yard storage. They haul and block boats of almost any size, restricted only by the size of their client's yards. Large and heavy boats require this professional care and the cost of seasonal hauling and launching should be a yearly assumption on the part of the boat owner.

Small boat owners, with yard space, can escape this year-in and year-out expense. The price of a boat trailer might seem excessive to the owner of a marina-stored boat. But, should the boat owner figure out the total expense over the next few years of every launch and haul that might be necessary to maintain a boat, plus the winter storage fees, he might find a trailer purchase more economical. For certain, having your boat at home is more convenient. And, of course, there is always the chance to borrow a friend's trailer or to rent one from a nearby marina.

The problems are not entirely alleviated by the purchase or loan of a trailer. The boat must be, at one time or another, removed, on land, from this trailer. Either to return the loaned trailer to its owner or to service your own, such as painting or replacing worn out rollers. Here now lies the possibility of damaging your boat or crunching some toes; launching a boat in the water is one thing, placing it up on blocks on dry land another.

To begin with, always keep in mind that the boat must again be returned to the trailer. This means it must be blocked in such a manner that getting it back on the trailer will not be more difficult than getting it off. Difficulties generally arise at this point when the boat has not been blocked high enough. So, our first recommendation is to be sure that there are enough blocks on hand to raise the boat at a height at least equal to the height of the trailer. Sometimes, depending on the weight and size of the boat, extra blocks equal to this height are also necessary. For instance; trailer height is 18 inches. Three tiers of block equalling 18 inches each are needed to block the boat and an additional 18 inches will be necessary to aid in getting the boat off a standard framed trailer. A strong cross member, such as a 4 x 4 timber as long as the boat's stern is wide, will be needed to block the stern. Additional smaller 2 x 4's should be on hand to raise the bow blocking enough to allow the boat to drain properly. For boats such as mine, that weigh in excess of 1,000 pounds, a good hydralic jack is a must. Scraps of styrofoam or any other similar materials make excellent chocks. These are needed under both sides to keep the boat from teetering. They are also placed in such a way that the boat's drain can be kept at the proper level.

Sliding the boat back off the trailer slightly enough so that the weight of the boat remains balanced over the trailer wheels or tilting pivot, allows the stern to drop on the stern blocks using the trailer as a lever. A small boat can be pushed back on the trailer. Heavier boats require a little more ingenuity, such as using a tree and rope as shown in the photos. There is no such thing as dropping the stern on the blocks and pulling the trailer out from under the boat, unless you wish to invite a catastrophe. With the boay well back on the trailer, and balancing over the pivot point, tilt or disconnect the trailer coupling and bring the stern to rest on the stern blocks. With the help of the jack and a few blocks, the bow is raised from the trailer, as shown in the photographs. But with A-frame trailers with cross members, our jack is trapped smack in the middle between the frames. This could be eliminated if it is possible to obtain a strong enough cross beam that would reach out beyond the trailer width. The more blocks would be required to stabilize both ends while the trailer is removed. Without this beam, it will be necessary to slide the trailer out one frame at a time, reblocking and rejacking the boat at each frame. This takes a little more time, but, with patience and caution it is possible to remove a boat that weighs a half a ton single handed.

Wooden boats, especially those that have been in the water all season, require blocking and choking that will keep the hull from sagging or taking on a set as the hull dries out during storage. In all cases support the hull's weight at the keel and not on the planking. Wooden hulls should really be stored on cradles e

Ingenuity: The winch rope is slackened only enough to allow the boat to shift aft about three feet; then it serves as a stop.

When the trailer is tilted, the stern will come to rest on the rear blocks.

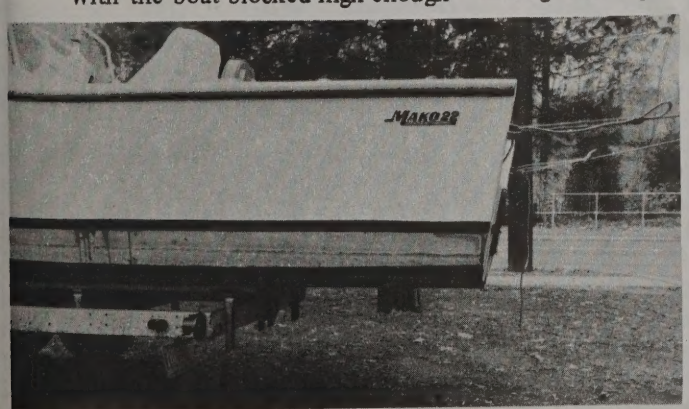
pecially built for each specific boat. These can normally be purchased along with a new boat. If not, you should consider building one. Fiberglass boats can also take on a new set if not blocked correctly, however, the risk is less marginal because the hulls do not soften from exposure to water.

Whenever it is necessary to use the jack, don't assume that the keel alone can support the boat on the small head on the jack. A length of angle iron or a piece of hard oak wood will help to distribute the wieght over the jack and prevent the jack from puncturing a hole through the bottom. In the accompanying photographs you may notice that I didn't use either. Either my confidence in the structural strength of this boat permitted me to get away without such a plate or I was just plain lucky. But I certianly don't recommend that anyone else try it.

With the boat blocked high enough to get the rear end of the trailer back under the boat, at least to the bow blocks, getting the hull back on the trailer is simply a reversal of this procedure. Don't try to crank the boat onto the trailer with the winch. This could pull the boat off the rear blocks and smash the hull to the ground. The idea is to work the trailer back under the boat until all the weight has been relieved from the choking. Then, and only then, should you winch the boat the rest of the way.

The boats shown on these pages each weigh approximately 2000 pounds. Neither actually required more than one individual to do the work. Yet, it is always wise to have some help, at least someone to watch for any shifting or movement of the blocks while the trailer is being moved. A mishap at this point could cause immeasurable damage to your boat and defeat all the purpose in having done it yourself.

The bow is lifted from the trailer with a small hydraulic jack.



This boat is now balancing over the trailer wheels and is far enough back off the trailer to ease in blocking it.

At each frame, the boat is lowered, blocks and jack shifted behind, as the trailer is brought out from underneath the boat.

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USE LIGHT TACKLE SIMILAR TO SNAPPER FISHING. FLOAT-SPLIT SHOT SINKER AND A COUPLE OF FRESH WATER NO. 6 HOOKS TIED IN TANDEM.

SEA RUN TROUT ARE OFTEN CAUGHT ON THE LIVE KILLIES, SHRIMP OR WHATEVER YOU CAN GET FOR BAIT. EVEN IN SALTWATER THEY ARE OUT OF SEASON AND MUST BE RETURNED. SOUTH OF THE MONTAUK HWY. IT'S SALT WATER. NORTH IS FRESHWATER AND A LICENSE REQUIRED.

If you remember, in mid-May last ear, I wrote of a thrilling and exciting ay aboard the yacht, AMERICA, as uest of the F & M Schaefer Brewing Co. lost for the day, was Bob Blanks, director f the famous R.J. Schaefer Salt Water ishing Contest familiar to any east coast alt water fisherman.

It was a day of fine food and drink, nd brisk sailing aboard the luxurious acht, along with plenty of fishing conver- ation with many of the best writers and ishing authorities in this great land of ours.

Bob had called a few weeks earlier, xtending the invitation from Mr. R.J. Schaefer to serve on the Schaefer commit- tee. Having been a follower and fan of the contest for many years, and an ardent consumer of their golden beverage for even longer, I accepted the honor.

It was 1971, the Silver Anniversary year for the R.J. Schaefer Salt Water Fishing Contest, and I kind of hoped that 80 or 85 pound striper would show up. While the record wasn't broken, in this as every year, the statistics by contest winners did themselves proud. As the envelope arrived, listing some of this years winners, I was happy to see some names familiar to me and to many of you readers.

The state of Massachusetts took top honors in 1971. Grand Champions among the many clubs entered in the contest were the Cape Cod Salties, racking up a total of 8,768 points. They were closely followed by the Martha's Vineyard Fishing Club, with 8,584 points, and in third place overall, was another Massachusetts club, Sportsman Unlimited, with 7,577 points.

In fourth place, and leading the neighboring state of Conn., was the Hartford Surf Fishing Club with 7,130 total points. Running second and third in the Nutmeg State, were the Central Conn. Striper Club, and the Conn. Coastal Anglers respectively.

Leading Rhode Island Clubs were Newport County Saltwater Fishing Club, the Woonsocket Striper Club, and the Thundermist Striper Club in that order.

In New Jersey, the Asbury Park Fishing Club, quartered down near Ft. Monmouth, came in first with 5,382 points, followed by the Fishermen's Den, then the the Seabright Anglers.

Pennsylvania and Delaware were led by the KZA Striper Bums, and the West End Rod & Gun Club.

In New York, the Kings Bay Striper Club totaled 2,377 points to take the lead in that state, edging the Empire Striper Assn. by only 37 points. In third place, the Striper Suf Club Inc., totaled 2,377.

The Long Beach Striped Bass Fishing Club, compiled 5,692 points, to finish ahead of Eastern Anglers and High Hill Striper Club on Long Island, N.Y.

A Connecticut anglerette finished second among ladies high individual awards. Charlotte Zubik tallied a 48 lb. linesider. New York's Asie Espenak was number one, with a giant 64 pound linesider. In New Jersey, Stephanie Danaher took both high bass and bluefish awards, with a 35 lb. 9 oz. striper, and a fourteen pound chopper.

Connecticut residents, especially Westporters can hold their heads high for Steffie. She and husband Bill are Westporters, and are stationed at Fort Monmouth, N.J. where Bill is an Army Captain. Having fished often with Bill since he was in his early teens, I'm well aware of his fishing ability. Bill and Steffie married while he was stationed in her native Germany. It was inevitable for her to become a leading lady angler.

While Penn. and Delaware had no entries in the ladies division, winners from other states in the Striper Division were; Mass., Dorothy L. Dunnebier - 43½ lb., Rhode Island, Anna Borsay with a 38 pounder, and on Long Island, Genie Mussler with a 26½ pounder.

In the ladies division bluefish contest, Joyce Daignault of Rhode Island, came in first with an 18 pounder. In Conn., Shirley Ratford and Cindy Ratford, shared honors, each with a 15½ pound chopper. Elizabeth St. Coeur was top hook in Mass. with her 16 lb. 9 oz. blue, and Bonnie Rienecker's 10 lb. 12 oz. blue led the state of New York. Long Islander Genie Mussler backed up her winning striper with a 15lb. 4 oz. blue for dual honors in that area.

More familiar names popped up among the fly-fishing awards. Robert Sezauer took six separate awards on Long Island, with fish ranging from 5 lb. 13 oz., to 9 lb. 2 oz. Rob is a member of the Manhasset Bay Sportsmen's Club. Charlie Metzger copped the only other fly fishing award among Long Island clubs, with his 8 lb. 6 oz. entry for Mill River Rod & Gun Club. In Conn., fellow members of two different clubs captured fly fishing awards. Copp McNulty and Ray Campbell who are members of Conn. Salt Water Fly Rodders, and the Westport Striped Bass Club took awards for their 7-4 and 6-3 bass they took on the fly. Andrew Schaafsma, honored his club, the United Game Fishermen Inc. with the largest fly-caught fish entered, a 19 lb. 4 oz. beauty.

In Massachusetts, Frank and Richard Daignault each took fly fishing honors, along with Victor A. Palumbo of Fall River, Mass. Frank and Richard are members of the Woonsocket Striper Club, Frank's bylines being seen on many fine articles in the monthly outdoor magazines.

Latest member of the 60 pound striper club is Richard Shanks of the Atlantic Surfcasters, with his bass being just 60 pounds.

Four names are added to the fifty pound club listings. Michael Kaag of Lynbrook, N.Y. scored with a 55 lb. 3 oz. lunker, Robert S. Bottino, a member of the Surf Kings of N.J. with a 52 pounder, Richard O'Neill of the Central Conn. Striper Club a 51 pound lunker, and Mark Stock of the KZA Striper Bums weighing in one at fifty pounds even.

That's a pretty impressive list of fish. The R.J. Schaefer Brewing Co. has done much to enhance and dignify the sport of salt water fishing. Striving constantly to promote conservation and sportsmanship, within competition, we're looking forward to the 1972 contest.

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This course is being offered by th Neptune Power Squadron and is open the general public.

For further information, call Publ Relations Officer, Bill Beyer, at (51 HA. 3-6147.

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FRONT PAGE PHOTO

Patch Peipol hauls a hefty bass over the side. Patch caught this bass in the west end of the L.I. Sound. He said, "It's a photo like this that usually gets me started on getting my gear ready for the coming season." Photo by Doreen Pugh.

Fishermen continue to find the pickings poor for the most part. The skippers we spoke to all reported a fair day now and then, however, the majority of the time it was a struggle to come up with a few fish.

Capt. Paul Forsberg, skipper of the "Viking Star," said he had a good day last Wednesday, a fair day on Saturday and a good day again on Sunday. The rest of the time it was terrible. Capt. Forsberg fished the Cartwright Grounds last Wednesday where he caught over 100 fish. Some of the larger fish caught ranged in the 25 to 30 pound class. Cartwright didn't produce too well on Thursday and Friday so on the weekend the captain fished a wreck off Block Island. Saturday's catch totaled 60 fish and Sunday's catch topped out at 130 fish. John Csopoci of Rahway, N.J. caught the largest codfish on Saturday. It weighed in at 45 pounds. John Carmichael was runner up with a 40 pound cod.

Two boats sailed out of Captree this past weekend, the "Capt. Scotty" and the "Capt. Ben Litwin". The fishing is reported as being poor. On the better days, 7 to 10 fish are usually caught, but then there are those days when not a fish can be found. Capt. George Tweedy said he had 10 fish for five fares on Sunday. The one good thing he could say about the

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understand these hard-core fishermen. On Saturday, the ocean was full of ling, whiting, herring and mackerel. Capt. Kessinger's 9 year old son, Peter, had a bushelful of mackerel in short order, yet the fishermen on board seemed uninterested. At one point, while fishing over a likely codfish spot, only one cod aly on the deck to account for 1½ hours of fishing. Yet, the fishermen wanted to know why Capt. Kessinger didn't come there earlier instead of wasting all that time fishing for whiting, ling, mackerel and herring.

Jerry Pavlicek and Charlie Winters pose with cod of 33 and 36 pounds. These cod were caught at Cartwright Grounds aboard the "Peconic Queen."

These flounders are only part of the catch made by Jack Turco. Jack fished Canal on January 7th.

That's a string of fish Lucky and Nancy of Skidmore's Fishing Station, E. Moriches, caught while visiting Mary and Paul Skidmore of New Port Rickey, Florida. "It sure was great catching those silver trout," says Nancy. "I seldom get to fish; I'm always so busy getting the fishermen out. We will be opening Skidmore's March 17th for a good flounder season."

J.T.

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

ADD 6 HOURS FOR LOW TIDE

SANDY HOOK

DAY	AM	PM
27-Thur.	5:06	5:38
28-Fri.	6:01	6:29
29-Sat.	6:49	7:16
30-Sun.	7:30	7:58
31-Mon.	8:13	8:40
1-Tues.	8:52	9:20
2-Wed.	9:30	9:59
3-Thur.	10:09	10:39

on SANDY HOOK

Long Island South Side

	h.	m.
Hempstead Bay		
Deep Creek Meadow	+1	02
Green Island	+1	22
Cuba Island	+1	08
Bellmore, Bellmore Creek	+1	29
Neds Creek	+0	50
Freeport Creek	+0	34
Freeport, Baldwin Bay	+0	38
Long Beach	+0	19
Long Beach, outer coast	- 0	29
Hempstead Bay Continued		
East Rockaway	+0	42
Woodmere, Brosewere Bay	+0	35
East Rockaway Inlet	- 0	06
Jamaica Bay		
Plumb Beach Channel	+0	03
Barren Island, Rockaway Inlet	- 0	00
Beach Channel (bridge)	+0	38
Motts Basin	+0	40
Norton Point, Head of Bay	+0	39
New York International Airport	+0	26
Grassy Bay (bridge)	+0	44
Carnarsie	+0	28
Mill Basin	+0	29
Coney Island	- 0	03
Norton Point, Gravesend Bay	- 0	03
Shinnecock Inlet (ocean)	- 0	50
Ponquogue Bridge, Shinnecock Bay	+1	25
Potunk Point, Moriches Bay	+3	35
Moriches Inlet	- 0	56
Mastic Beach, Moriches Bay	+3	28
Fire Island Breakwater	- 0	39
Democrat Point, Fire Island Inlet	- 0	38
Great South Bay		
Fire Island Light	+0	47
West Fire Island	+2	11
Point O' Woods	+2	28
Bellport, Bellport Bay	+3	44
Patchogue	+3	23
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3	39
Great River, Connetquot River	+3	20
Bay Shore	+2	23
Oak Beach	+2	24
Babylon	+2	12
Gilgo Heading	+2	23
Amityville	+2	21
Biltmore Shores, So. Oyster Bay	+2	05
Jones Inlet (Point Lookout)	- 0	19

WILLETS POINT

DAY	AM	PM
27-Thur.	9:03	9:41
28-Fri.	9:57	10:34
29-Sat.	10:50	11:18
30-Sun.	11:33	--------
31-Mon.	12:01	12:14
1-Tues.	12:36	12:47
2-Wed.	1:07	1:12
3-Thur.	1:31	1:38

on WILLETS POINT

Long Island Sound

	h.	m.
Port Chester	- 0	09
Rye Beach	- 0	14
Mamaroneck	- 0	08
New Rochelle	- 0	13
Davids Island	- 0	02
City Island	- 0	03
Throggs Neck	+0	02
Whitestone	+0	02
Old Ferry Point	+0	04
College Point, Flushing Bay	+0	20
Hewlett Point	- 0	03
Port Washington, Manhasset Bay	- 0	01
Execution Rocks	- 0	06
Glen Cove, Hempstead Harbor	- 0	11

BRIDGEPORT

DAY	AM	PM
27-Thur.	8:27	9:04
28-Fri.	9:23	9:57
29-Sat.	10:14	10:44
30-Sun.	11:01	11:27
31-Mon.	11:45	--------
1-Tues.	12:06	12:26
2-Wed.	12:47	1:07
3-Thur.	1:28	1:46

on BRIDGEPORT

Long Island Sound

	h.	m.
Oyster Bay		
Oyster Bay Harbor	+0	04
Bayville Bridge	+0	09
Cold Spring Harbor	+0	04
Eatons Point	- 0	01
Lloyd Harbor ent. Huntington	- 0	01
Northport, Northport Bay	- 0	01
Nissequogue River entrance	- 0	07
Stony Brook, Smithtown Bay	+0	05
Stratford Shoal	- 0	09
Pt. Jefferson Harbor entrance	- 0	01
Port Jefferson	+0	02
Setauket Harbor	0	00
Conscience Bay ent. (Narrows)	+0	03
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0	05
Herod Point	- 0	11
Mattituck Inlet	+0	39
Horton Point	- 0	24
Truman Beach	- 0	46

NEW LONDON

DAY	AM	PM
27-Thur.	6:33	7:12
28-Fri.	7:28	8:03
29-Sat.	8:17	8:49
30-Sun.	9:02	9:32
31-Mon.	9:47	10:13
1-Tues.	10:29	10:56
2-Wed.	11:11	11:37
3-Thur.	11:50	--------

on NEW LONDON

	h.	m.
Plum Gut Harbor, Plum Island	+0	34
Little Gull Island	+0	17
Shelter Island Sound		
Orient	+0	41
Greenport	+1	09
Southold	+1	48
Noyack Bay	+2	10
Sag Harbor	+1	04
Cedar Island	+0	49
Peconic Bays		
New Suffolk	+2	31
South Jamesport	+2	37
Shinnecock Canal	+2	38
Three mile Hbr. ent., Gardiners Bay	+0	26
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	- 0	09
Montauk Harbor entrance	- 0	20
Montauk, Fort Pond Bay	- 0	24
Montauk Point, north side	- 1	08

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